

Hospital Nurses

All nurses train in hospital and most have their entire careers there. They are usually assigned to one particular ward. Since these often cater for patients requiring similar treatments, this in practice means that nurses tend to increase their practical experience in one area. The care of patients on a day to day basis remains a crucial part of the role. Fully qualified nurses receive considerable help from trainee nurses and health care assistants.

Each ward is supervised by a senior nurse called a Sister. Wards vary in size and there can be more than one Sister. If a man is fulfilling the role he is called a Charge Nurse.

Modern hospitals seek to maximise the efficient use of beds and modern medicine encourages a fast turnover of patients wherever possible. Unless absolutely necessary, no patient is in bed for a long time. This puts a lot of pressure on all resources, including cleaning and the steps needed to achieve the desired levels of hygiene. Partly as a result, instances of outbreaks of diseases which are resistant to most antibiotics, such as MRSA and C Difficile,

have become more common. ***Continued...***